REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT - RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

श्री जयन्ती लाल बरोट(गुजरात) : सभापति महोदय, मैं 'संविधान के भाग IX क के कार्यान्वयन' के संबंध में विभाग – संबंधित शहरी विकास संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के तीसरे प्रतिवेदन की एक – एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

SHRI JIBON ROY: I want to say something.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will allow you later.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION OF CHAIR

Re : Request for statement by Prime Minister on his interaction with foreign leaders

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Jharkhand): Sir, during the inter-Session period, between the last Session and this Session, there have been some very important developments on the foreign policy front. We have had India-European Union Summit; we have had the ASEAN Summit in which India has participated; we have had the UN General Assembly Meeting and we have also had some very important bilateral summit-level meetings. When our Prime Minister was in New York, he met President, Bush; he met President Musharraf of Pakistan; he met other Heads of the States. We have had his meeting during the ASEAN Summit with the Chinese Prime Minister, Wen Jiabao. The President Putin was here recently. The Prime Minister has, in this period, met Tony Blair of the UK. Now, it is an accepted practice that whenever such summit meetings take place, the Parliament of India is taken into confidence. It is many days since Parliament has been meeting, but I see no effort on the part of the Government. Even now, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is busy talking to the hon. Member, Shri R.K. Anand. I don't think he is paying any attention to what I am saying.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pachouriji.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, one would have expected that this Government would have informed the House as to when the Prime Minister of India is going to make a statement in this House on all these developments, and the Prime Minister of India has to make the statement because these are summit-level meetings. But, unfortunately, till this time, we have had no such information. I am, therefore, demanding that the

Prime Minister should come to the House and make the statement at his earliest convenience. The Government has been taking the Parliament in a very casual manner. This is one such instance, and, I hope, we will soon hear when the Prime Minister will come to the House and make the statement.

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, हमारे सदन के सम्मानित सदस्य श्री यशवंत सिन्हा जी ने जो मुद्दा उठाया है, इस विषय में, मैं प्रधानमंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करूंगा और शीघ्र ही सदन को बता दूंगा कि वे किस दिन, इस विषय में अपना वक्तव्य देने जा रहे है । जहां तक सदन की गरिमा का प्रश्न है, हमने हमेशा सदन की गरिमा का ध्यान रखा है । मैं आपको वचन देता हूं कि हम आगे भी इसका ध्यान रखेंगे ।

Re. Right to strike by Government employees

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I wish to know from the Government, especially the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, when you are going to introduce a Bill guaranteeing the right to strike as a fundamental right. Dr. Manmohan Singh, when he was sitting on the other side, said that - this is on record - matter of right to strike cannot be resolved through judicial proclamation; it should be resolved through legislative process. Now, you have won the election swimming the wave of democratic opinion. You cannot go back to autocratic platform. You have to bring the Bill and settle the issue and it should be at par with the international Convention - Convention Nos. 87, 98, 151 and 154. Thousands of State Government employees have come to me demanding restoration of right taken away by the Supreme Court. What should I tell them? I wish the Judges are saints; I wish the Judges are angels, but in the end, they represent the elite. They come from the elite. They know little about the labour and the problem of the labour movement and the workers cannot be left to the wolf. One day, one Chief Minister will stand up and ask us to kneel down and there, we cannot protest. Then, everybody can say, "No right to strike." Therefore, Sir, the Government should take immediate steps. Sir, labour is not created by judicial proclamations, nor are the employers created by judicial proclamations. Therefore, we are not going to abide by the proclamations made by the Judges and the Courts. Labour will go by their own judgement over their position and I would like the Government to make a statement and come out, at the earliest, with a Bill guaranteeing this right.